PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND'S MIGRATION PATTERNS:

PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

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JANUARY, 1986

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INTRODUCTION

This report examines and analyzes the past, present, and future migration of people to and from Prince Edward Island. Migration in any one region is very much a reflection of the entire socio-economic character of that region, therefore an analysis of migration patterns can provide valuable insights into the region as a whole.

People migrate to new communities for many personal, social, and political reasons; But, for the most part, migration is an economic phenomenon. Migration is the result of a changing economy as Kaznets, 1964, p. xxiii points out:

> "Internal migration and the redistribution of population by residence among various parts of the country are a major way in which people respond to changing economic opportunities emerging in the course of economic growth. Not all internal migration is in response to economic growth; and not all opportunities emerging in the course of growth require a shift of residence to be converted into realized economic advance. But migration induced by growth that promises greater opportunities has been sufficiently

> massive in the presently advanced countries to warrent the view that the relation between population redistributions and economic development is an important and indispensable link in the mechanism of modern economic growth."

Thus, the following report will deal with migration as it relates to the economy of Canada and Prince Edward Island. The report will look at how many people are coming to live on Prince Edward Island, why they are moving here, and where they are coming from. As well, the report will examine historical and future population trends for this province. Three primary data sources will be utilized.

DATA SOURCES

In May of 1981 the Prince Edward Island Hospital and Health Services Commission began providing data to the Prince Edward Island Department of Industry. The numbers represent those people who applied for personal coverage under the Hospital and Health Services Commission; All new residents of the Island must apply for this coverage if they wish to be covered by Medicare for this province. In this way the data also represent an accurate image of the number of people migrating to Prince Edward Island. The following report is

primarily based on the migration data received from the Hospital and Health Services Commission (HHSC).

The Commission's data includes the number of people applying for coverage, each applicant's province or country of residence (prior to Prince Edward Island) and their main reason for migrating to this province. Data on these two variables provides information on who is coming to live on Prince Edward Island and why they are coming here. For instance, between January and June 1985 Nova Scotia provided 327 new residents to Prince Edward Island (more than any other province). Of these 327 people, 47 stated they came to the Island to "work on the farm." A closer examination and comparison of figures such as these for each of the provinces will often illustrate interesting trends.

Using HHSC as a data source for migration statistics is a rather new concept and therefore the validity of the statistics must be assessed. Towards this end, wherever possible, Statistics Canada figures on migration are compared to the HHSC figures.

Statistics Canada utilizes information from Family Allowance files to determine the number of migrant children in Canada. An adjustment factor from Revenue Canada files is then used to calculate the approximate adult migrant population. Finally, the adult and child migrant figures are added to form a final total.

Another Statistics Canada source used in this report

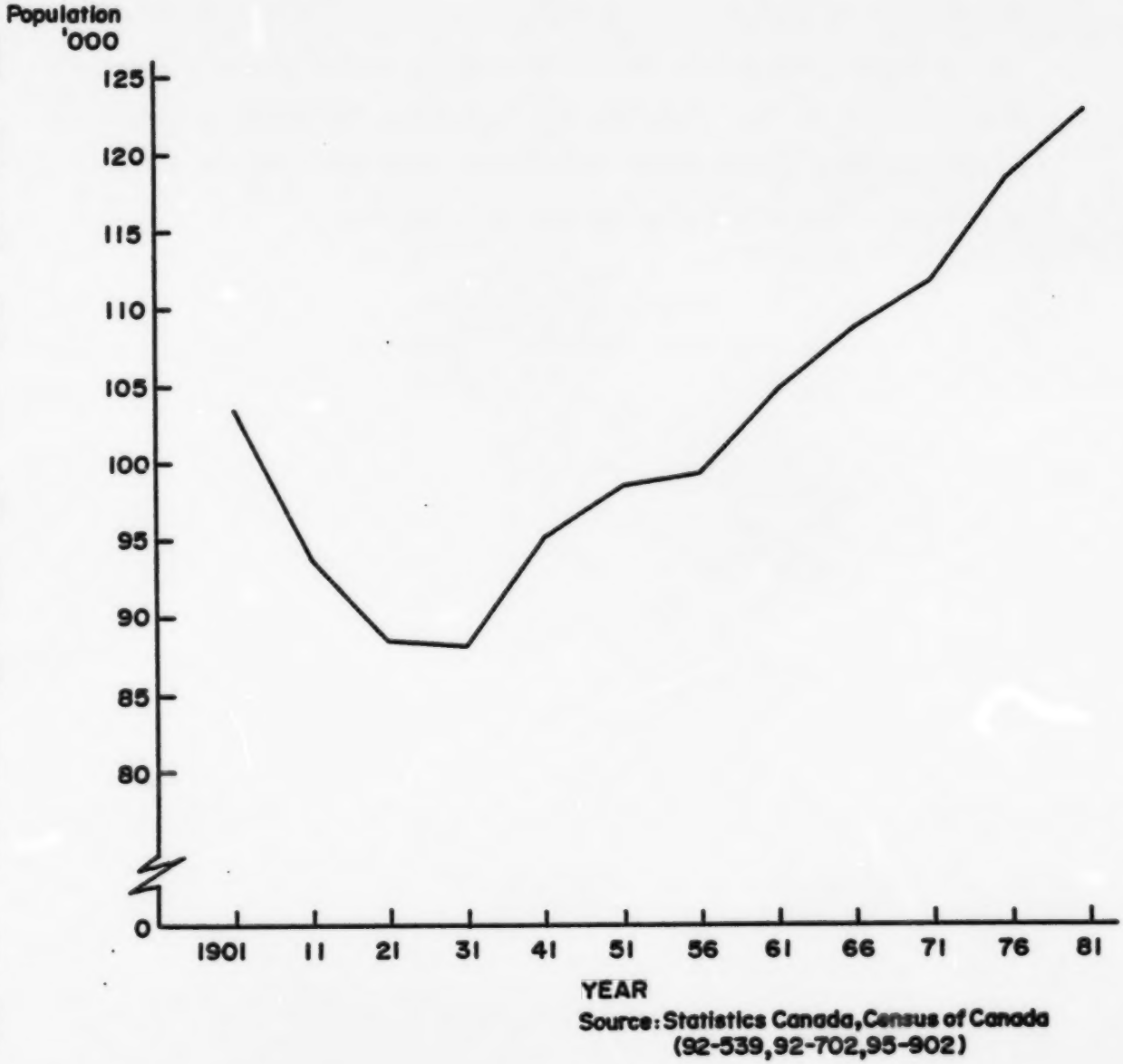
is the census data collected during this century. The census was performed every ten years for the first part of this century and every five years after 1951. This census data will be used to illustrate historical population trends for Prince Edward Island.

HISTORICAL MIGRATION TRENDS

The total population of Prince Edward Island has not varied by more than 40,000 in the last 80 years. This is a very small number when one considers that in only the last 36 years, the population of Canada has doubled from 12.5 million to 25 million (Statistics Canada). Figure 1 shows the population changes in Prince Edward Island during this century.

Figure I

Prince Edward Island Population-1901-1981



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Canada
(92-539, 92-702, 95-902)

This province's population has nonetheless been increasing for most of this century, even though Canada's population as a whole has increased at a much faster rate. One of the main reasons for Prince Edward Island's slower population growth has been the negative net migration from the Island. Net migration is a measurement of the in-migration minus the out-migration. Table 1 presents the information:

TABLE 1
NET MIGRATION FOR PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
BY FIVE AND TEN YEAR INTERVALS 1881-1981

INTERNAL	NET MIGRATION
1881-1891(1)	-14,000
1891-1901(1)	-17,000
1901-1911(1)	-17,000
1911-1921(1)	-14,000
1921-1931(1)	-9,000
1931-1941(1)	-2,000
TOTAL	-73,000
1931-1941(2)	-2,672
1941-1951(2)	-12,420
1951-1956(2)	-8,103
1956-1961(2)	-3,318
1961-1966(2)	-4,600
1966-1971(2)	-2,101
1971-1976(2)	+2,072
1976-1981(2)	-359
TOTAL	-31,501

(1) Data for 1881-1941 were taken from the Historical Statistics of Canada 1965 "Estimates of Changes in the population ten years and over of the Provinces through natural increase and migration by decades 1881-1941, pg 22 (Keyfitz, "The Growth of Canadian Population" pp 47-63)

(2) Data for 1931-1971 were taken from the Historical Statistics of Canada, Second Edition 1983, "Changes in the population through natural increase and migration by Province by intercensal intervals 1931-1971; (Canada Year Book). 1971-1981 figures were taken from the Canada Year Book 1985. Net migration was calculated as the difference between the total population change and the natural increase for a given time period.

NOTE: Data for 1881-1941(1) and from 1931-1981(2) are not comparable but are cited as they illustrate a similar trend.

SOURCE: Historical Statistics of Canada 1965, Statistics Canada, Historical Statistics of Canada Second Edition 1983, Canada Year Book 1985.

Between 1881 and 1981, Prince Edward Island had negative net migration for all but the 1971-76 period. That is to say, more people were leaving the province than entering.

It is possible for an area to have negative net migration and positive population growth, (as Prince Edward Island did between 1931-81), because migration is only one of three components in population growth. Also involved are the birth rate and the death rate. Birth have a positive effect on population growth; deaths, a negative effect; and migration a positive or negative effect depending on the value of the net migration. In Prince Edward Island's case, the high birth rate overshadowed the death rate and negative net migration (Table 1) to give positive population growth (Figure 1) since 1931.

The positive net migration to Prince Edward Island between 1971-76 shown in Table 1 was also evident in the other Atlantic provinces. It was part of a larger trend taking place in Canada at that time. The primary force behind the trend was a loss of residents from Ontario. In the period 1976-81, the net migration rate in the Maritimes was negative once again. Ontario continued to lose residents, and migration to Alberta and British Columbia soared as Canadians moved west in search of new opportunities. The first five years of the 1980's would see yet more changes in Canadian migration trends.

The interprovincial migration to Western Canada slowed as the 80's began, eventually coming to a stop as the recession of the first part of this decade took affect in

Western Canada. Thus we see a reversal in migration trends and it is this reversal which would become the dominating force in Canadian population distribution between 1981-1985. Thus the economic recession is one major reason for recent migration trends. However, it is important to assess the reasons why people migrate as clearly the pattern of migration has changed over the last number of years.

TOTAL NUMBER OF APPLICANTS

The number of applicants for coverage under the Hospital and Health Services Commission totalled 12,893 between the months of May 1981 and August 1985, the table below shows the annual totals as well as the number and percentage who were former Islanders.

TABLE 2

THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE MIGRATING TO PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, AND THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE WHO WERE FORMER ISLANDERS BY YEAR

	May-Dec-1981	1982[1]	1983	1984	Jan - Aug, 1985
Total Number of Applicants	1974	3020	3155	2880[2]	1864
Former Islander Applicants	443	879	892	871[3]	N/A
Percentage Former Islanders	22.4%	29.1%	28.3%	37.2	N/A

(1) Excludes March and April 1982

(2) Excludes October 1984

(3) Excludes October, November and December 1984

SOURCE: Prince Edward Island Hospital and Health Services Commission, Migration Data.

Table 2 shows that annual migration to the Island averages around 3,000 people and of these approximately 880 or 29.4% are former Islanders. The 29.4% average is considerably greater than the 1981 percentage, yet approximately the same as the 1982 and 1983 percentages, and considerably less than the 37.2% of 1984.

The increase in the percentage of returning Islanders may have been a result of the economic recession which began in 1981. The recession caused a reversal in prevailing migration trends as Canadians left the West and moved East.

How do these data compare to Statistics Canada's? Statistics Canada provides data on overall migration trends which also illustrate this reversal in trends. Table 3 presents this data.

TABLE 3

NET MIGRATION OF SIX PROVINCES

BETWEEN JUNE 1980 AND MAY 1983

	PEI	N.S.	N.B.	ONT	ALTA	B.C.
June 1980 to May 1981	-1251	-2836	-4989	-33247	44250	37864
June 1981 to May 1982	-856	-1936	-2842	-5665	36562	8705
June 1982 to May 1983	636	3791	3554	23585	-11650	-1489

SOURCE: Statistics Canada, Demography Division

In Table 3 one can see how Prince Edward Island and other eastern provinces became areas of net in-migration by 1983 while Alberta and British Columbia experienced a rather sudden switch to net out-migration. In 1984 the trend continued as Alberta lost an estimated 42,000 through interprovincial migration, some of whom left for Prince Edward Island.

The HHSC data of Table 2 show that more former Islanders were returning to Prince Edward Island as the 1980's continued. The Statistics Canada data of Table 3 show that Alberta and British Columbia gradually became areas of net out-migration while Prince Edward Island gradually became an area of

Net in-migration. Thus one can assume that the increased number of former Islanders coming home were for the most part, coming from Western Canada. And this return of former Islanders was integral in Prince Edward Island's net migration reversal between 1980 and 1983 (Table 3).

Turning away from specific interprovincial migration trends, the following section will analyze monthly migration patterns to Prince Edward Island.

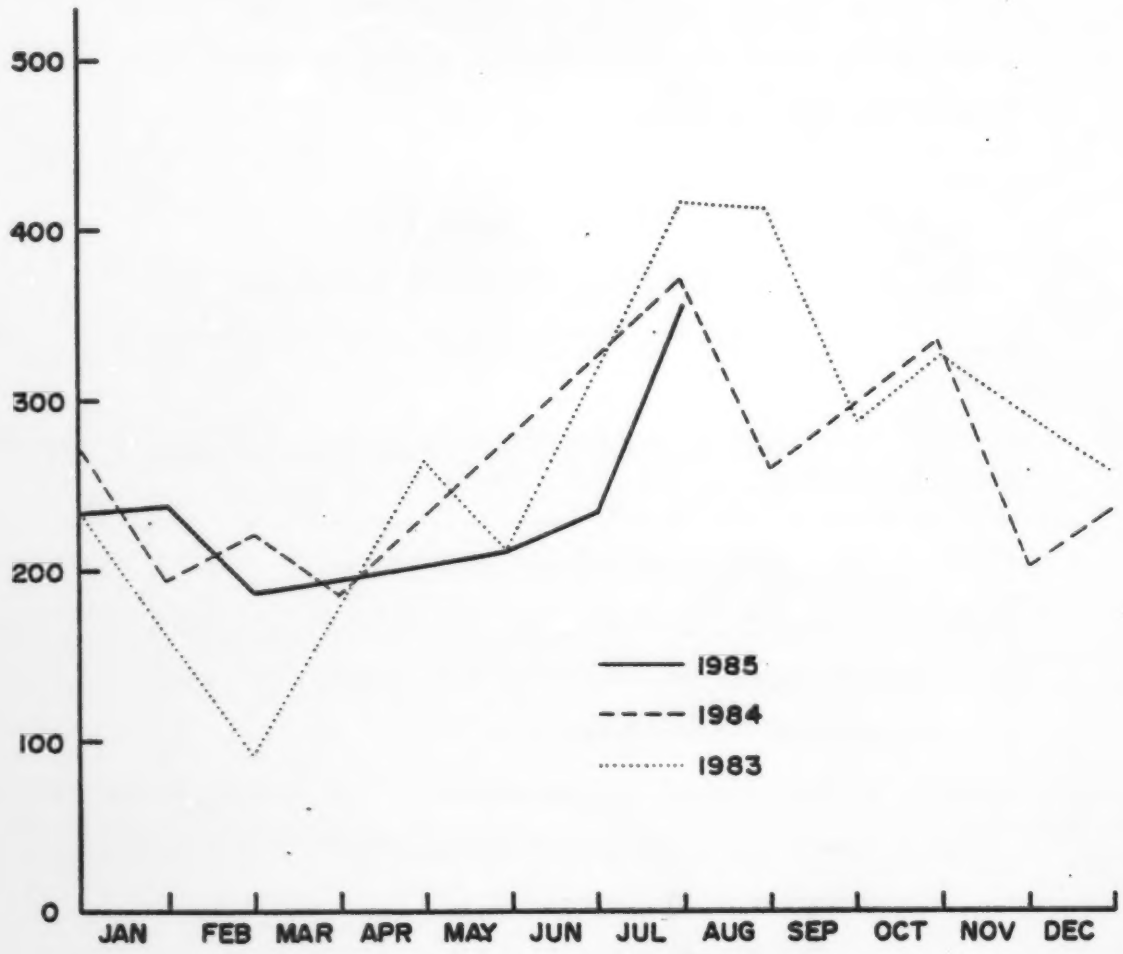
MONTHLY MIGRATION TRENDS

A comparison of month by month migration shows that people consistently prefer to move to this province in the summer months. Figure 2 shows a comparison of two complete years, 1983 and 1984, as well as the first eight months of 1985.

FIGURE 2

THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE MIGRATING TO PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND BY MONTH

January 1983 - June 1985



Source: Prince Edward Island Hospital and Health Services Commission, Migration Data

August was the peak month of migration in 1983 and 1984 while March was the low point for the year 1984. The trend shows a low Migration at the beginning of each year, an increasing migration rate in the spring, a maximum in August and a declining rate in the autumn. A similar trend is evident in Statistics Canada data.

TABLE 4

SEASONAL MIGRATION RATES FOR PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, 1983-84(1)

	Jan-Feb-Mar		Apr-May-June		Jul-Aug-Sept		Oct-Nov-Dec	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
HHSC	588	(18.4)[2]	671	(20.9)	1037	(32.4)	907	(28.3)
Stats Canada	585	(15.1)	740	(19.1)	1471	(38.0)	1078	(27.8)

(1) Figures represent an average of these two years

(2) Percentages in brackets

SOURCE: Prince Edward Island Hospital and Health Services Commission, Migration Data; Statistics Canada, Demography Division

The fluctuations in seasonal migration are more pronounced in the Statistics Canada figures than those of HHSC as seen in Table 4. Whereas Statistics Canada calculates 38.0% of migration to this province takes places in the summer months of July, August and September; HHSC averages 32.4% for the same period. The 38% from Statistics Canada may reflect the fact

that its data source includes a more transient migrant population. That is to say, long-term vacationers who stay on Prince Edward Island for an extended period of weeks during the summer are more likely to apply for Family Allowance than for Medicare; Family Allowance provides a monetary benefit to the applicant while medicare provides a service that may or may not be necessary while the migrant is in this province. In this way the Medicare based at HHSC statistics would perhaps be lower than the Family Allowance based Statistics Canada figures.

Differences aside, one out of every three persons who migrates to Prince Edward Island does so in the summer months. The question is - where are the migrants coming from?

MIGRATION STATISTICS BY PROVINCE OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION

There are two sources of information on the province of origin and destination. The first is Statistics Canada and the second is Hospital and Health Services Commission data. The following section will compare the data from the two sources in order to highlight the popular Provinces of destinations of outmigrants and popular provinces of origin of in-migrants.

STATISTICS CANADA MIGRATION DATA BY PROVINCE OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION

The interprovincial migration data by Province of Origin and Province of Destination illustrate the movement of people from one Province to another. Tables 5 and 6 presents Statistics Canada's migration data for Prince Edward Island for 1961-62 - 1983-84.

TABLE 5

IN-MIGRATION TO PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND BY PROVINCE OF ORIGIN 1961-62 - 1983-84

PROVINCE OF ORIGIN	NFLD	N.S.	N.B.	QUE	ONT	MAN	SASK	ALTA	B.C.	YUKON	NWT	TOTAL IN-MIGRATION
YEAR												
1961-62	159	1533	580	306	1007	121	81	160	174	7		4,128
1962-63	116	1187	622	270	1016	90	40	147	135	20		3,644
1963-64	298	1014	753	182	1044	84	13	96	176	7		3,667
1964-65	195	717	596	234	1002	91	27	58	89	0		3,010
1965-66	109	966	716	286	1205	118	48	137	131	26		3,741
1966-67	116	982	443	382	1425	225	55	138	90	13		3,869
1967-68	123	830	538	330	1544	113	21	131	118	6		3,754
1968-69	79	1307	667	184	1315	81	35	131	125	6		3,930
1969-70	108	838	579	264	1039	129	14	112	118	6		3,207
1970-71	130	1039	506	402	1472	148	43	167	111	6		4,023
1971-72	143	739	718	298	1731	277	36	227	119	12		4,299
1972-73	169	911	742	371	1646	110	71	222	78	12		4,332
1973-74	221	956	907	268	1824	164	44	183	190	0		4,756
1974-75	101	1210	698	361	2279	202	66	245	244	22		5,428
1975-76	185	1118	599	284	1632	139	59	223	116	36		4,392
1976-77	135	831	474	364	1354	122	54	274	191	38		3,837
1977-78	137	922	546	359	1211	118	65	370	191	14		3,933
1978-79	159	870	586	212	1058	88	72	342	175	22		3,584
1979-80	184	647	573	208	991	97	28	275	149	33		3,185
1980-81	107	741	503	143	1058	62	52	298	123	29		3,116
1981-82	146	931	440	146	901	83	70	418	220	20		3,375
1982-83	113	607	404	201	945	64	86	773	162	48		3,403
1983-84	160	773	561	199	1049	79	54	728	131	44		3,778
TOTAL	3393	21669	13751	6254	29748	2805	1134	5855	3356	427		88,391

SOURCE: Statistics Canada 91-208 and Demography Division

TABLE 6

OUT-MIGRATION FROM PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND BY PROVINCE OF DESTINATION 1961-62 - 1983-84

PROVINCE OF DESTINATION	NFLD	N.S.	N.B.	QUE	ONT	MAN	SASK	ALTA	B.C.	YUKON	NWT	TOTAL OUT MIGRATION	TOTAL NET MIGRATION
YEAR													
1961-62	89	955	614	212	990	102	20	130	123	7		3242	886
1962-63	117	1167	755	240	1360	151	55	199	206	27		4278	-634
1963-64	165	922	599	372	1679	76	48	186	220	14		4280	-612
1964-65	56	924	729	278	2146	125	35	194	125	0		4612	-1601
1965-66	148	972	775	247	2064	148	70	176	141	7		4749	-1008
1966-67	157	969	449	413	1809	235	50	214	214	36		4545	-676
1967-68	114	973	618	220	1307	128	85	156	256	7		3865	-111
1968-69	43	1234	631	397	1348	99	64	284	411	14		4526	-596
1969-70	77	939	582	294	2173	189	49	245	245	14		4809	-1602
1970-71	141	721	707	163	1547	113	49	177	170	14		3801	222
1971-72	91	869	673	259	1528	91	63	259	147	28		4009	290
1972-73	146	835	397	125	1385	132	28	202	139	21		3409	923
1973-74	184	900	737	213	1411	177	43	347	234	7		4254	502
1974-75	148	940	756	148	1124	181	48	413	241	39		4037	1390
1975-76	120	986	607	177	1030	139	73	417	168	25		3742	649
1976-77	184	894	616	111	938	129	71	531	185	24		3683	154
1977-78	139	799	490	77	816	117	54	503	217	21		3233	700
1978-79	129	1048	582	165	842	104	52	462	247	27		3658	-74
1979-80	116	781	492	96	894	70	68	712	272	42		3543	-358
1980-81	121	990	528	108	914	107	58	1199	301	41		4367	-1251
1981-82	148	933	552	73	893	113	75	1172	213	59		4231	-856
1982-83	133	620	456	104	728	61	59	441	144	21		2767	636
1983-84	195	737	625	72	896	70	50	491	122	31		3289	489
TOTAL	2961	21108	13970	4564	29822	2857	1267	9110	4741	526		90929	-2538
NET	432	561	-219	1690	-74	-52	-133	-3225	-1385	-99		-2538	

SOURCE: Statistics Canada 91-208 and Demography Division

IN-MIGRATION

The number of people migrating to Prince Edward Island varied from one province to another. Between 1961-62 and 1983-84, the largest number of people migrating to Prince Edward Island came from Ontario (29,748 or 33.7%) while Nova Scotia accounted for the second largest number of people migrating to Prince Edward Island (21,669 or 24.5%). The Yukon and Northwest Territories accounted for the smallest percentage of migrants to Prince Edward Island accounting for only 427 or 0.5 percent of the total migrants between 1961-62 and 1983-84.

Table 5 also illustrates the variation in the number of people migrating to Prince Edward Island from the same province over a specified time period. Between 1961-62 and 1983-84 Nova Scotia and Alberta showed the largest fluctuation in the number of people migrating to Prince Edward Island. In 1961-62, 1,533 people from Nova Scotia moved to Prince Edward Island while in 1983-84 there were only 773 people from Nova Scotia who moved to Prince Edward Island, a decrease of 760 people. For Alberta the situation was reversed, in 1961-62 there were 160 people who moved from Alberta to Prince Edward Island which increased to 728 peole in 1983-84

On average Prince Edward Island recorded in-migration of 3,843 people per year between 1961-62 and 1983-84, with the Provinces accounting on average for the following percentage of migrants: Newfoundland (3.8%), Nova Scotia (24.5%), New Brunswick (15.6%), Quebec (7.1%), Ontario (33.6%), Manitoba (3.2%), Saskatchewan (1.3%), Alberta (66%), British Columbia (3.8%) and Yukon and Northwest Territories (0.5%).

OUT-MIGRATION

The highest percentage (33%) of Islanders who left Prince Edward Island between 1961-62 and 1983-84 went to Ontario. Nova Scotia accounted for the second largest percentage of people moving from Prince Edward Island (23.2%), while the Yukon and Northwest Territories received only 0.6 percent of the total number of people leaving Prince Edward Island.

On average 3,963 people left Prince Edward Island each year between 1961-62 and 1983-84 with each Province on average receiving the following percentage of out-migrants from Prince Edward Island: Newfoundland (3.3%), Nova Scotia (23.2%), New Brunswick (15.4%), Quebec (5.0%), Ontario (32.8%), Manitoba (3.1%), Saskatchewan (1.4%), Alberta (10.0%), British Columbia (5.2%) and Yukon and Northwest Territories (0.6%)

The number of people migrating from Prince Edward Island to any one Province varies over time. Between 1961-62 and 1983-84 Alberta showed the largest variation in the number of Islanders moving there. In 1961-62 130 people left Prince Edward Island and moved to Alberta, which peaked in 1980-81 at 1,199 and fell to 491 by 1983-84. Betwen 1961-62 and 1983-84 88,391 people came to Prince Edward Island, however, 90,929 left the province, thus Prince Edward Island lost 2,538 people.

More people came to Prince Edward Island from Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Quebec than left. The opposite was true for all other provinces.

HOSPITAL AND HEALTH SERVICES COMMISSION MIGRATION DATA BY PROVINCE OF ORIGIN OF APPLICANT

A closer look at the HHSC statistics shows that although Alberta accounted for a considerable number of new residents to Prince Edward Island since 1981, it was the province of Ontario which provided the greatest number of people. Table 7 provides this data:

TABLE 7

THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE MIGRATING TO PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND BY PLACE OF PREVIOUS RESIDENCE BY YEAR

PROVINCE	MAY-DEC 1981	1982[1]	1983	1984[2]	JAN-AUG 1985	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
Newfoundland	90	118	124	93	89	514	3.9
Nova Scotia	529	539	591	607	448	2714	20.8
New Brunswick	267	361	370	473	268	1739	13.4
Quebec	68	181	222	175	86	732	5.6
Ontario	516	837	902	893	456	3604	27.6
Manitoba	48	40	59	74	30	251	1.9
Saskatchewan	44	51	57	44	37	233	1.8
Alberta	135	401	459	394	195	1584	12.1
British Columbia	111	205	133	173	85	707	5.4
Yukon & N.W.T.	6	42	26	30	18	122	0.9
United States	64	87	77	71	66	365	2.8
Great Britain	6	16	6	10	24	62	0.5
Other	67	99	108	76	62	412	3.2
TOTAL	1951	2977	3134	3113	1864	13039	99.9

1. Excludes March and April 1982

2. Excludes October 1984

SOURCE: Prince Edward Island Hospital and Health Services Commission, Migration Data

Ontario added over 3600 residents to this province between May 1981 and August 1985, accounting for over 27% of incoming people. Quebec is a province of comparable population size to Ontario and is geographically closer to the Island; yet Quebec accounted for less than 6% of in-migration. In explaining this difference, one must take into account the language difference between Quebec and Prince Edward Island as well as the major past and present migration trend from this province to Ontario.

Alberta contributes a rather large number of migrants considering its distance from this province. It was the promise of jobs that attracted Islanders and other Canadians in record numbers to Alberta in the 1970's and the loss of jobs which reversed the trend in the 1980's

It is possible to compare the HHSC and Statistics data on this variable as in Table 8.

TABLE 8

NUMBER OF PEOPLE MIGRATING TO PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND BY YEAR BY SELECTED PROVINCE OF ORIGIN

	JUNE 1980 TO MAY 1981		JUNE 1981 TO MAY 1982		JUNE 1982 TO MAY 1983	
PROVINCE OF ORIGIN	HHSC	STATISTICS CANADA	HHSC	STATISTICS CANADA	HHSC	STATISTICS CANADA
Nova Scotia	N/A	741(23.8)[1]	731(25.1)	931(27.6)	559(17.5)	607(17.8)
Ontario	N/A	1,058(34.0)	759(26.1)	901(26.7)	917(28.6)	945(27.8)
Alberta	N/A	298 (9.6)	258 (8.9)	418(12.4)	467(14.6)	773(22.7)
British Columbia	N/A	123 (3.9)	179 (6.1)	220 (6.5)	161 (5.0)	162 (4.8)
PROVINCIAL TOTAL	N/A	3,116	2,911	3,375	3,201	3,403

(1) Percentage of total in brackets

SOURCE: Prince Edward Island Hospital and Health Services Commission, Migration Data; Statistics Canada Demography Division

Statistics Canada figures for in-migration to this province are consistently higher than those of HHSC; the Statistics Canada figures average around 11% higher. This could be because some individuals do not apply for Medicare. Nevertheless, one can be reasonably certain that the difference can be traced to the manner in which each data source is compiled.

When looking at the percentages, it is apparent that proportionately speaking, the two data sources are in agreement. The one exception is that of Alberta. There was a drastic increase in Alberta-Prince Edward Island migration between June 1980 and May 1983. The increase is recorded as being much higher by Statistics Canada; by May 1983, 22.7% of all in-migration to this province was from Alberta compared to 15% for HHSC. In some instances, HHSC data may underestimate migration because some individuals may move away but only stay several months until they decide to move back. If they did not apply for coverage in the Province the migrated to, then there would be no need to reapply here. Therefore, HHSC would have no record of their migration. Thus, again Statistics Canada is seen to reflect a more transient migrant population.

British Columbia like Alberta was considered a land of opportunity during the last decade and was badly hurt by the 1981 recession; but the effect of the recession in that province was not as pronounced as in Alberta. Statistics Canada shows that the number of British Columbians leaving for Prince Edward

Island went up in 1982. However, both Statistics Canada and HHSC show this migration declined in 1983.

As one might expect, our neighbouring provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick provided over one-third of all incoming residents to this province. Immigration from foreign countries including the United States and Great Britain accounted for less than 7% of all migration.

The reasons for coming to Prince Edward Island differ for various individuals.

REASONS FOR AND CONSEQUENCES OF MIGRATION

There are many reasons why people migrate from one region to another. The decision to move or not involves a cost-benefit analysis, whereby the person must decide whether the benefits of moving will outweigh the costs of moving. Not all benefits and costs can be assigned a dollar value as movement may occur because of personal or social reasons as well as economic ones. Nevertheless, the general historical reasons for interregional migration has been economic as people tended to move from regions with low incomes and poor employment opportunities to regions with higher incomes and good employment opportunities. This trend has certainly been affected by the unemployment insurance program, as it helps to keep people in regions with poor employment opportunities by providing individuals with an income supplement. The changes made to the UI Program in 1971 provided for regional

differentiation, thus allowing regions with higher unemployment rates to qualify for UI with shorter qualification periods as well giving individuals longer benefit entitlement periods. Thus the UI program has helped to lessen the level of migration in the past decade. Migration takes place because of social and economic reasons, but it can also help to generate social and economic changes. For example, migration aids in the relocation of skilled workers thus increasing productivity and economic activity. As well, migration may contribute to social problems. For example, a large influx of people to one area may require the community to provide temporary or long-term assistance to these migrants.

Stone in **MIGRATION IN CANADA, REGIONAL ASPECTS** p. 4 clearly summarize3s the importance of migration to an area when he stated:

> "In summary, migration is an important component of population change, particularly when viewed from the standpoint of a local community. It is at once an indicator and a generator of social and economic changes, altering the size and the demographic and socio-economic compositions of poulation. Through such alteration it influences the growth potential of a community and the extend to which the community experiences certain social and economic problems."

The next section which analyzes the reasons for migrating to Prince Edward Island using HHSC migration data, clearly shows the majority of residents who moved to Prince Edward Island did so for economic reasons.

APPLICANT'S REASON FOR MIGRATING

Applicants to HHSC were asked their reason for coming to Prince Edward Island to live. No comparable data are available from Statistics Canada. The HHSC data were coded based on the ten categories listed below.

TABLE 9

THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE MIGRATING TO PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND BY REASON FOR COMING BY YEAR

	May-Dec 1981	1982[1]	1983	1984[2]	Jan-Aug 1985	TOTAL
Department of Veterans Affairs Transfer	57	62	69	134	22	344
Department of National Defence Transfer	115	110	124	135	74	558
Job Transfer (Bank, etc)	170	188	295	368	103	1124
Retire	54	92	108	91	49	394
Come Home to Live	176	486	525	214	140	1541
Get Married	23	31	36	17	29	136
Work on Farm	66	183	143	14	263	669
Other Personal Reasons	110	158	175	174	20	637
No Reason Stated	64	61	68	44	973[3]	1210
Training (university)	2	30	40	41	191	304
TOTAL	837	1401	1583	1232	1864	6917

(1) Excludes March and April 1982

(2) Excludes October, November and December 1984

(3) Also includes those who did not give any response.

SOURCE: Prince Edward Island Hospital and Health Services Commission, Migration Data.

Transfers from the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) made up a considerable proportion of incoming residents in the last number of years. Over the next decade, DVA transfers will decrease now that the Department of Veteran's Affairs has been relocated. Even more people came to Prince Edward Island through job transfers other than DVA as 8.1 percent came because of the Department of National Defence transfers and 16.2 percent came to Prince Edward Island because of a job transfer such as a bank, etc. Between May 1981 and August 1985 approximately 40% of new residents moved to this province for work-related reasons.

The gradual increase in "Training (university)" as a reason for migrating may be once again attributable to the economic recession of the first part of this decade. As the unemployment rate increased, more Canadians returned to university and college to resume their education. One can expect the "Training (university)" members to decrease in number as the recession eases in Canada.

A rather inexplicable statistic in Table 9 is the marked decrease in the number of "Work on Farm" in 1984. This may reflect a difference in coding.

Coming to Prince Edward Island to retire is a common reason stated in HHSC migration data. Some people who leave the Province to find work elsewhere come back home to retire, also a number of people who visit the Island for holidays come to retire. Approximately 5.7 percent of the total number of people migrating to Prince Edward Island came to retire.

The number of people who moved to Prince Edward Island to live increased considerably in 1982 and 1983, which may have resulted from the recession during this period, as a large number of Islanders who left to work in the Western Provinces returned home. Between May 1981 and August 1985 22.3 percent of the migrants to Prince Edward Island were people who came home to live (Table 9).

In addition, 2.0 percent of the people who moved to Prince Edward Island came to get married, while 9.2 percent of the people who moved to Prince Edward Island moved for other personal reasons. Clearly the reason for coming to Prince Edward Island varies for different individuals, as well the reason for coming to Prince Edward Island can vary from one province to another.

APPLICANTS' REASON FOR MIGRATING BY PROVINCE OF ORIGIN

As of January 1985, the Prince Edward Island Hospital and Health Services Commission computerized its application procedure, making for a more standardized statistical format. It is therefore now possible to compare province of origin and reason for coming to Prince Edward Island for a given time period as in Table 10. It was in a table such as this that the flexibility and unique character of the HHSC as a data source becomes apparent.

TABLE 10

APPLICANTS' PLACE OF ORIGIN BY REASON FOR MIGRATING JANUARY - JUNE 1985

	NFLD	N.S.	N.B.	QUE	ONT	MAN	SASK	ALTA	B.C.	YUKON	NWT	OTHER	TOTAL
No response	36	167	78	27	141	11	16	67	31		5	55	634
Department of Veterans' Affairs Transfer	2	1	5	3	8	0	0	0	0		0	0	19
Department of National Defence Transfer	3	7	4	1	7	1	3	4	1		0	2	33
Job Transfer (Bank etc.)	7	32	15	0	17	1	0	2	1		0	1	76
Retire	0	6	4	6	11	0	0	1	0		1	6	35
Come Home to Live	0	24	12	2	29	1	2	20	7		0	6	103
Get Married	3	6	2	0	5	1	0	0	2		0	5	24
Work on Farm	10	47	33	8	45	2	2	23	5		1	9	185
Other Personal Reasons	0	5	2	0	4	1	0	3	0		0	2	17
No Reason	0	2	3	1	1	0	0	0	0		0	0	7
Training (University)	4	30	19	9	38	0	2	14	4		2	21	143
TOTAL	65	327	177	57	306	18	25	134	51		9	107	1276

SOURCE: Prince Edward Island Hospital and Health Services Commission, Migration Data

Department of Veterans' Affairs transfers for this period are exclusively from the eastern provinces with Ontario providing the largest number. Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland accounted for a rather high proportion of the "Job Transfer (bank, etc.)" category. This can be attributed to the fact that many businesses operate exclusively in the Atlantic provinces and would therefore only transfer within this region.

The international students at the University of Prince Edward Island account for a large part of the 21 people from other countries who arrived here for training.

Another interesting area to consider is what is the most popular reason for coming to Prince Edward Island by Province of origin.

Newfoundland recorded a higher percentage, (15.4%) of its migrants between January and June 1985 came to work on a farm, while 10.8 percent came because of a job transfer. Approximately 14 percent of the migrants from Nova Scotia came to work on a farm, while 9.8 percent came because of a job transfer. In New Brunswick 18.6 percent of the migrants came to Prince Edward Island to work on a farm, while 10.7 percent came for training (university), Quebec recorded 15.8 percent of its migrants coming to Prince Edward Island came for training (university) and 14 percent came to work on a farm. A higher percentage of the migrants from Ontario (14.7%) came to Prince Edward Island to work on a farm, while 12.4 percent came for training (university). Manitoba recorded 11.1 percent came to

Prince Edward Island to work on a farm. Saskatchewan recorded 12 percent of its migrants came to Prince Edward Island for a Department of National Defence transfer. Migrants from Alberta recorded 17.1 percent came to work on a farm, while 14.9 percent who left Alberta came home to live. Indeed Alberta made up almost 20% of the migrants coming home to live while only providing 10% of the total migration to Prince Edward Island for the January to June 1985 period. British Columbia recorded 13.7 percent of its migrants to Prince Edward Island came home to live, while 9.8 percent of the people moving from British Columbia to Prince Edward Island came to work on a farm. The Yukon and Northwest Territories recorded a higher percentage (22.2%) of their residents who moved to Prince Edward Island came for training (university). The majority of migrants coming to Prince Edward Island from other countries came for training (university).

The single most common reason for migrating to Prince Edward Island (overall and for six of the provinces) was to work on a farm. It is quite possible that most of the migrants coming for this reason are former Islanders, returning home to a family farm after working out-of-province for a number of years.

It would be most advantageous if migration trends could be predicted. But when the primary force behind migration is economics, accurate predictions are difficult to make. Nonetheless, the final section of this report will deal with possible population trends for Canada and Prince Edward Island.

FUTURE POPULATION TRENDS

Statistics Canada provides population projections for Canada and each of the provinces extending into the next century. Table 11 lists component outlines for five possible population projections for Canada.

TABLE 11

SUMMARY OF COMPONENT ASSUMPTIONS UNDERLYING THE FIVE POPULATION PROJECTIONS

PROJECTION SERIES NUMBER	FERTILITY (NUMBER OF CHILDREN PER WOMAN BY 1996)	INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION (NET GAIN PER YEAR)	INTERNAL MIGRATION PATTERN
		('000)	
1	1.40	50	(A)
2	1.40	50	(B)
3	1.66	50	(B)
4	1.66	100	(A)
5	2.20	100	(C)

(A) Continuation of current trends;

(B) Gradual return to westward flow;

(C) Recent changes (average for 1981 to 1983) remain constant for the projection period

SOURCE: Statistics Canada (91-520 occasional)

NOTE: (1) Projection 1 is the low growth scenario; the other projection series represent possible shifts in the trends for one or more components.

(2) The mortality assumption is the same for all the projection series; life expectancy at birth increases to 74.9 years for males and 81.6 years for females by 1996.

Utilization of these assumptions results in different population projections for the province and Canada as presented in Table 12.

TABLE 12

POPULATION PROJECTIONS FOR CANADA AND PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND JUNE 1 1984 - 2006

(THOUSANDS)

	CANADA						PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND					
YEAR	PROJECTION 1	PROJECTION 2	PROJECTION 3	PROJECTION 4	PROJECTION 5	RANGE	PROJECTION 1	PROJECTION 2	PROJECTION 3	PROJECTION 4	PROJECTION 5	RANGE
1984	25,120.1	25,120.1	25,122.7	25,127.7	25,127.9	7.8	125.0	124.9	124.9	125.0	124.5	0.5
1985	25,351.5	25,351.5	25,362.1	25,372.3	25,372.7	21.2	126.1	125.8	125.8	126.1	125.1	1.0
1986	25,583.0	25,583.0	25,606.8	25,622.3	25,625.1	42.1	127.1	126.5	126.6	127.3	125.7	1.4
1987	25,807.5	25,807.5	25,850.4	25,876.4	25,888.7	81.2	128.2	126.9	127.2	128.5	126.4	2.1
1988	26,024.2	26,024.1	26,091.0	26,132.8	26,164.4	140.3	129.4	127.3	127.7	129.8	127.1	2.7
1989	26,231.6	26,231.3	26,327.1	26,390.3	26,451.6	220.3	130.5	127.4	128.0	131.2	127.9	3.8
1990	26,427.9	26,427.5	26,557.5	26,647.7	26,749.5	322.0	131.7	127.4	128.1	132.7	128.7	5.3
1991	26,613.0	26,612.4	26,781.1	26,903.9	27,056.6	444.2	132.9	127.3	128.3	134.2	129.6	6.9
1992	26.785.3	26,784.6	26,996.9	27,158.2	27,372.0	587.4	134.1	127.2	128.4	135.7	130.5	8.5
1993	26,944.7	26,943.9	27,204.3	27,410.0	27,695.2	751.3	135.3	127.1	128.6	137.3	131.4	10.2
1994	27,091.8	27,090.9	27,402.7	27,659.0	28,024.4	933.5	136.4	127.0	128.8	138.9	132.3	11.9
1995	27,266.5	27,225.5	27,592.1	27,905.1	28,359.3	1,133.8	137.6	126.9	129.1	140.5	133.3	13.6
1996	27,349.1	27,348.0	27,772.4	28,143.5	28,695.1	1,347.1	138.7	126.9	129.4	142.1	134.2	15.2
1997	27,461.6	27,460.5	27,944.2	28,374.5	29,028.5	1,568.0	139.7	126.8	129.6	143.7	135.2	16.9
1998	27,564.1	27,563.0	28,105.1	28,595.7	29,350.9	1,787.9	140.7	126.7	129.8	145.3	136.1	18.6
1999	27,657.0	27,655.8	28,255.7	28,807.8	29,663.1	2,007.3	141.7	126.6	130.0	146.8	137.0	20.2
2000	27,740.9	27,739.8	28,396.8	29,011.3	29,966.0	2,226.2	142.6	126.4	130.1	148.2	137.8	21.8
2001	27,816.4	27,815.5	28,529.2	29,207.0	30,260.3	2,444.8	143.5	126.2	130.2	149.6	138.6	23.4
2002	27,884.3	27,883.4	28,653.7	29,395.7	30,547.1	2,663.7	144.3	126.0	130.3	151.0	139.4	25.0
2003	27,945.0	27,944.4	28,771.1	29,578.1	30,827.5	2,883.1	145.1	125.7	130.4	152.3	140.1	26.6
2004	27,999.2	27,998.8	28,882.1	29,754.9	31,102.3	3,103.5	145.9	125.5	130.4	153.6	140.9	28.1
2005	28,047.3	28,047.1	28,987.4	29,926.8	31,372.6	3,325.5	146.6	125.2	130.4	154.9	141.6	29.7
2006	28,089.5	28,089.6	29,087.7	30,094.4	31,639.3	3,549.8	147.3	125.0	130.4	156.2	142.4	31.2

SOURCE: Statistics Canada: Population Projections for Canada and Provinces and Territories 1984 - 2006. 91-520

Internal Migration Pattern (A) of Table 12 forecasts a continuation of current trends. That is to say, "In this assumption Alberta and British Columbia experience either net migration losses or small gains and almost all the other provinces net migration gains." (Statistics Canada). Pattern (A) is found in Projection Series one and four; and it is these two projections which forecast the highest populations for Prince Edward Island in Table 12. Therefore it would appear that continued migration from the West would result in the highest populations for this province.

Internal Migration Pattern (B) foresees a gradual return to westward flow of Canadians as the economic outlook for the West improves. Pattern (3) is found in Projection series two and three; and these two projections forecast the lowest populations for this province. Conversely, increased western flow would result in the lowest populations for this province.

Internal Migration Pattern (C) represents a median between (A) and (B). Pattern (C) is found in Projection Series five, and it is this projection of the five which forecasts the median population for Prince Edward Island.

According to projection series one and two the Canadian population is expected to grow by 11.8 percent between 1984 and 2006, while projection series three, four and five show a growth in the Canadian population of 15.8, 19.8 and 25.9 percent respectively between 1984 and 2006. For Prince Edward Island the population projection series one, three, four and

five show growth of 17.8, 4.4, 25.0 and 14.4 percent respectively between 1984 and 2006, while projection series two shows very little population growth as the population for 1984 is projected at 124,900 and projected at 125,000 for 2006. Thus according to projection series two, three and five, the Canadian population is expected to continue to grow at a faster rate than the population of Prince Edward Island.

CONCLUSION

The primary force behind, and overriding influence on migration is economics. People move to find a job, to transfer to a better paying job, to take advantage of lower taxes in certain regions, or to return home after being disappointed by any one of the above. In a country as large as Canada there will always be economically depressed regions and regions experiencing economic growth. It follows then that there will always be a "to and fro" migration in this country.

This report has given some specific examples of how economics affects migration. The recession of the last five years has caused Prince Edward Island to become an area of net in-migration (thereby creating faster overall population growth) as ex-Islanders move home from Western Canada. In addition one can see from the reports findings that this migration increase in turn increased the number of migrants arriving here for training in university and college (to presumably resume their education). Two more important facts the report illustrates are that just over 40% of migration to this province takes place

because of work-related reasons and that the vast majority of migration takes place between July and December.

The Province of Prince Edward Island has in the past experienced steady population outflows to such areas as Ontario and Alberta. A brighter economic outlook attracted Islanders but when the inevitable economic downturn took place in those areas, Islanders returned home to this province. This phenomenon, more than any other, speaks of migration trends on Prince Edward Island. It is the state of the economy in the rest of Canada, and not the state of the economy on Prince Edward Island, that most affects migration to and from this Island.

In analyzing migration trends, data sources such as the Hospital and Health Services Commission are not often used. The statistics and analysis that have been presented here are somewhat unique. The HHSC statistics provide another vantage point in examining migration to this province while in no way ursurping the validity of migration statistics from other sources.

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